Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* It will all depend upon the circumstances of each case.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know whether Government follow any special policy with regard to this or there is no logic behind it ? Now it is stated that Government do not follow any particular policy, but that in each case decision will be arrived at according to the circumstances of the case. May I know whether Government do not follow any policy or any logic with regard to the question of taking referendum ?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* The logic of each case will depend upon the circumstances of each case.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* And which will be decided by the Government and not understandable to the public!

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Of course the referendum will be by the public. Government have to decide considering the circumstances of each case whether a referendum is wanted or not. If the Government are satisfied that a referendum will be necessary, it will be taken.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know whether there is any principle underlying the Government's attitude in this matter?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* It will depend upon the circumstances of each case. There is no definite codified principle.

Mr. President: I think the question has already been answered.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ACT—ENFORCEMENT OF

36. Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether the standards of weight and of measures of length and capacity are being used in the whole of the State;

(*b*) whether there are wardens appointed by the Government under the Cochin Weights and Measures Act?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know, Sir, whether in the matter of weights and measures, merchants are

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making use of weights and measures other than those permitted as per the rules or the Act ?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Not within my knowledge.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Then I may state for the information of this House that ordinarily a *rathal* is 40 rupee-weight. But there are *rathals* in use in the State according to which articles are sold and purchased at 42½ rupee-weight. So also is the case with *edangali*.

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* According to our law the *rathal* of 42½ rupee-weight is the primary standard weight.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* There are two kinds of weight that are made use of in the country. There is a *rathal* of 40 rupee-weight and there is also a *rathal* of 42½ rupee-weight. So also with regard to *edangali* there is difference. What I beg to state is that at least hereafter there should be some standardisation so far as our weights and measures are concerned. It is only for that purpose that I put this question.

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* For the information of the House I will submit that every weight or measure to be used in the State has to be brought to the Taluk Office before it is used for stamping. Only stamped weights can be used. If there is any other kind of weight in use, unless the matter is actually brought into our notice, we can't do anything.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know whether stamping is done in the case of *rathal*?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Yes.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Do the Revenue Officers or the Police Officers check whether the weights and measures used are those that are stamped ?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* In certain places I have myself checked them, during the course of my investigation with reference to the price control scheme. Then I had to see whether they are selling according to the proper rates fixed by me. I was going about places and seeing whether the measures and weights used are all the proper ones.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know whether there have been any prosecutions last year under the Weights and Measures Act ?

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Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar)*: I want notice. In one particular case I said the Police must take action and prosecute.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South)*: May I know the average number of prosecutions in a year for the various offences under this Act?

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General)*: About 50.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South)*: How do you check and see whether the weights and measures used are the proper ones?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar)*: We are preserving standard weights and measures in the Taluk offices so that when any person brings his weights and measures for stamping, they are compared with those kept in the office and necessary alterations made and stamped and given.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters)*: Will the Government see that suitable measures are taken for the strict enforcement of the Act?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar)*: Since the notification with reference to the fixing of the rates was published in the Gazette, I requested the Police Commissioner to issue a circular to all the subordinate officers to see that proper weights and measures only are used everywhere. He issued such a circular. When I went to one or two places, the Inspectors told me that they are taking action. I think the notification was published in Gazette on 7th Chingam 1117. That was the first notification under the price control scheme.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam)*: May I know whether Government are aware that the measures in different taluks are different?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar)*: I am not aware.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam)*: It is so. The Talappalli *para* is smaller than the Trichur *para*. Will the Hon'ble Member for Revenue be pleased to investigate into this?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi)*: Does the Government recognise this?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar)*: We do not.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam)*: A smaller *para* is given to Talappalli people by the Taluk Office. The Talappalli *para* is smaller than the Trichur *para* which is otherwise called Kokkala *para*.

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar)*: In all seriousness do you say that such a thing is done in the Taluk Offices?

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam)*: Yes.

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Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Then I will enquire and set matters right.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* May I also know whether the same measure is used for measuring the same kind of articles in different taluks? In Kunnamkulam ghee and certain other articles are not sold in weight as in Mattancheri. Can you not standardise this also?

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* It should not be understood that because there are different measures prevailing in the different parts of the State they should be taken to task. What I suggest is that these people must be made to understand that they could use only such weights and measures, as are stamped by the Taluk Offices. This can be done by means of pamphlets, etc. I am perfectly certain that in the matter of iron materials they are sold at hundred weights *i.e.*, 112 lbs of 40 rupee weight each. These are things with which we need not quarrel. What I wish to suggest is that by means of some leaflets the people may be asked to conform to the various standards that have been prescribed by Government.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* For the information of the House I may say that I once paid a surprise visit to the arecanut market round about Vadakkancheri and there I found that the weights and measures used are proper ones.

DEATHS DUE TO CYCLONE IN THE STATE

37. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* Will Government be pleased to state the actual number of persons who died on account of the cyclone in the State?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* The actual number of persons who were understood to be dead on account of the cyclone is 62.

TRAINED CANDIDATES—APPOINTMENTS IN AIDED SCHOOLS

38. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether any circular or order has been issued from the Education Department to the Managers of Aided Institutions demanding the latter (Managers) to appoint only trained candidates to the posts of teachers in the respective institutions;

(*b*) if answer to (*a*) is in the affirmative, copies of such circulars or orders may be printed and placed on the

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